

missioners with the permission of Congress proceed as aforesaid and endeavour to effect the said enlistment on the bounty of twenty dollars allowed by Congress; but they are not to engage the faith of this state to give or make good any bounty of lands or give any assurance whatsoever that they will have such bounty.

RESOLVED, That Mr. President write to the Congress, and inform them, that this Convention feel themselves very unhappy that there should have been any, the least, difference of opinion between them; and as desired have reconsidered their former resolutions for raising the quota of troops of this state, and on a very deliberate and attentive consideration of the subject have come to the resolutions of this day, which the president is requested to enclose.

That this Convention never apprehended that the Congress intended this state should be obliged in its individual capacity to make good the bounty of lands to the soldiery, but were of opinion and remain firmly persuaded that if the bounty in land should, by authority of this state, be proposed as a motive to induce the individuals of its quota to enlist, this state will be bound in good faith to see that bounty effectually granted; and therefore as this state has no lands belonging solely and exclusively to itself, with which to make good the bounty, it is not only prudent, but necessary, before they do an act which will engage the faith of the state, to know what land is to be applied, and on what terms, to the designed purpose.

That this Convention are under the strongest impressions that the back lands claimed by the British crown, if secured by the blood and treasure of all, ought in reason, justice, and policy, to be considered as a common stock, to be parcelled out by Congress into free, convenient, and independent governments, as the wisdom of that body shall hereafter direct; but if these (the only lands as this Convention apprehend that can) should be provided by Congress at the expence of the United States to make good the proffered bounties, every idea of their being a common stock must be thereby given up: some of the states may, by fixing their own price on the land, pay off what of their quota of the public debt they please, and have their extensive territory settled by the soldiery of the other states, whilst this state and a few others must be so weakened and impoverished, that they can hold their liberties only at the will of their powerful neighbours.

That this state is so far from having an intention to increase unnecessarily the expence of the United States, that it hath uniformly given every evidence to the contrary; but this Convention impressed with the indispensable necessity of establishing and keeping up a good army, at the same time that they could not be active in giving up a common right of the United States, or in rendering the freedom of their own precarious, determined to exert the only safe means in their power to raise the quota of this state, nor can this Convention yet see any possibility of injury to the common interest from this state adopting the most effectual means to raise its own quota of troops of its own inhabitants partly, or even wholly, at its separate expence.

That this Convention have a strong disinclination to go into any discussion of the powers with which the Congress is invested, being fully sensible that the general interest will not be promoted by either the Congress affirming, or this Convention denying the existence of a fulness of power in that honourable body; the best and only proper exercise of which can be in adopting the wisest measures for equally securing the rights and liberties of each of the United States, which was the principle of their union.

That this Convention, very sincerely disposed to contribute every thing in their power towards the common cause, will, if the Congress chuse neither to specify the lands to be given in bounties, nor to permit this state to give the proposed additional bounty of ten dollars, endeavour to enlist its quota of troops on the twenty dollars bounty allowed by Congress, but if the event should prove a disappointment, it cannot be imputed to this state.

That this Convention request the honourable Congress soon to signify their pleasure in this matter to the commissioners from this state now attending in Philadelphia, that the little time left may not be lost!

On motion of Mr. Johnson, RESOLVED, That those of captain Richard Smith's company who will not re-enlist in the artillery service of this state be discharged.

Mr. S. Wright brings in and delivers to Mr. President a report from the committee appointed to enquire into the truth of the facts set forth in the memorial of captain William Stone, which was read, and after some time spent in considering the same, the further consideration thereof was postponed, at the request of captain Stone, till the first meeting of the general assembly.

The order of the day for taking into consideration the letter from the president of Congress of the second of October last being read, the same was referred till to-morrow.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.